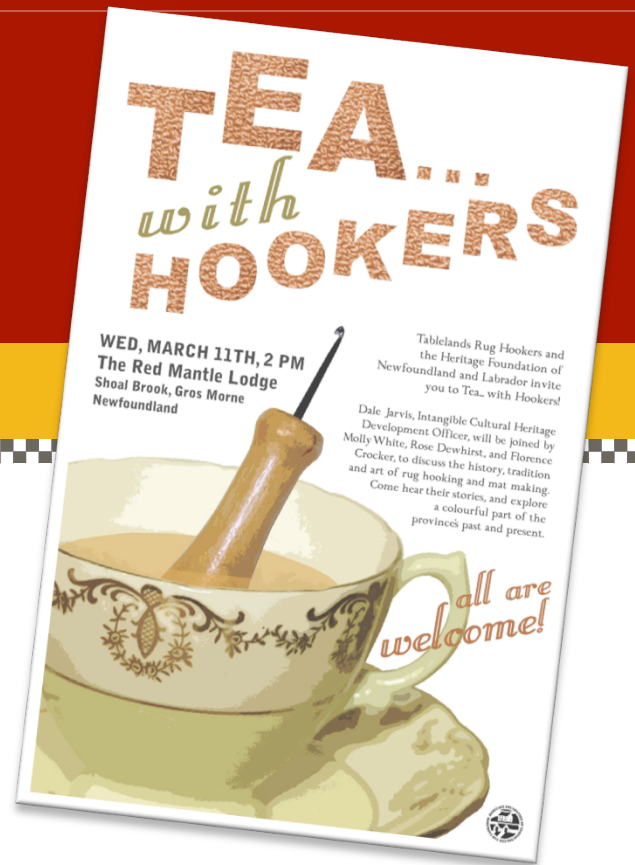


Intangible Cultural Heritage Update

News and updates
on Newfoundland and Labrador's
Intangible Cultural Heritage
Program

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Tea, Heritage, and Hookers

The Tablelands Rug Hookers and the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador invite you to tea... with hookers!

On Wed, March 11th, at 2 pm, ICH Development Officer, Dale Jarvis, will be joined by Molly White, Rose Dewhirst, and Florence Crocker to discuss the history, tradition and art of rug hooking and mat making.

The general public is invited to come hear their stories, and explore a colourful part of the province's past and present. The event has been organized by HFNL board member and Corner Brook-based folklorist Sandra Wheeler, whose article on wriggling fences is also in this issue.

"Tea... With Hookers!" will take place at the Red Mantle Lodge in Shoal Brook, Gros Morne, at 2 pm, March 11th.

Sherri Kelly tries her hand at rug-hooking while visiting Trinity Museum, as part of Doors Open Trinity Bight.



Sharing our Cultures – *À la découverte de nos cultures* (SOC) is celebrating ten years of culturally diverse community-based events! SOC is a bilingual multicultural and educational project in recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and Canada's "Racism. Stop It!" Campaign. SOC, which was established in 1999 by Lloydetta Quaicoe, provides opportunities for school children and youth from diverse linguistic, cultural, and religious backgrounds to share their heritage, creating an increased awareness and appreciation for cultural diversity in Canada.

This year's three-day event will be held from March 22 to 24, 2009, during which junior and senior high students from over 20 countries will staff information booths presenting their cultures.

The theme of SOC this year is

"Music, Dance, and Stories" and to coincide with this celebratory theme, the students will perform dances, tell stories, and showcase music from their own cultures. There will also be booths



representing Government Departments and Community Organizations relevant to multiculturalism and diversity, like the Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Department of Canadian Heritage.

There is an exciting change of venue this year, as the events will



Local project celebrates ten years of multicultural programming and education this March at The Rooms.

be held at The Rooms in St. John's. The Official Opening Ceremonies will be held on March 22 at 12:30pm, after which the cultural and information displays, stories, and dance demonstrations will be open to the public. During the

Opening Ceremonies there will also be a Canadian Citizenship Ceremony, fitting for the 10-year anniversary of this multicultural event. On March 23 and 24, SOC will be hosting over 1000 students who have registered to come and view the cultural presentations, as well as interact with host students and community partners.

Any inquiries about Sharing Our Cultures or

the event can be made by contacting Lloydetta Quaicoe, Project Coordinator, by email at quaicoe@gmail.com or by telephone at (709) 727- 2372.

Submitted by:
Gabrielle Peyton
Assistant Project Coordinator

Have you heard the [murmur] about [here]say?

A new St. John's soundscape project will bring you the stories of the street.

Award-winning radio documentary producer Chris Brookes and storyteller/folklorist Dale Jarvis want to invite you to take a walk down Water Street, St. John's.

To help you on your way, the duo are collaborating on a "story map" of downtown St. John's. The idea for the Water Street story experience comes from [murmur], a pioneering mobile-based oral history documentary project which started in Toronto.

In the six years since its inception, the [murmur] project, which is providing the technical platform and model for the St. John's installation, has spread to cities across Canada and the U.S, and to Brazil, Ireland, Scotland and Australia.

"Each time we are able to work with partners on the ground in a new location, helping to bring local stories alive in the streets, it's really exciting," says Robin Elliott, Executive Director of [murmur]. "We started [murmur] to help weave more voices and stories into the narrative fabric of cities and neighbourhoods. Everyone has interesting and important stories to share."

The project will collect, record and



shape personal stories about various places in the downtown, and present the audio stories onsite via cellphone to listeners standing in those same locations.

"We will collect and audio-record people's personal histories and anecdotes about the places in their neighborhoods that are important to them," says Brookes. "In each of these locations we will install a [here]say - [murmur] St. John's sign with a telephone number listed on it."

The idea is that passersby will stop, dial the number on the sign, and listen to a local story, told by a local person.

"The stories we record will range from intimate recollections to curious anecdotes to more 'historic' stories -- but always told from a

personal point of view, as if the storyteller is just out for a stroll and was casually talking about their neighbourhood to a friend."

The hope is that [here]say - [murmur] St. John's will allow listeners to perceive the city not just as a layout of streets and buildings, but as a landscape of human experience.

"These are the stories that make up the city's identity," says Brookes, "but they're normally kept inside the heads of the people who live here."

Gaylynne Lambert is the Marketing and Special Events Coordinator for the Downtown Development Commission, one of the project partners.

"The Downtown Development Commission is excited to be a partner in an endeavor as unique and interesting as this project," says Lambert.

"Downtown is everyone's neighbourhood and there are so many colourful and fascinating tales to tell about an area so culturally rich as this."

If you have a memory of Water Street you would like to add to the project, visit online at:
www.heresay.ca





An Exhibition of Traditional Newfoundland and Labrador Wriggling Fences

By Sandra Wheeler

On Monday evening, February 16, nineteen grade eight students at G. C. Rowe Junior High School hosted an exhibition entitled “Wrigglin’ Fences” in the Art Room of their school in Corner Brook.

Under the direction of their teacher Mrs. Eileen Murphy, these enterprising students displayed nineteen miniature fence models, marketing containers and business cards—all designed and crafted individually in their Newfoundland and Labrador Crafts course.

Around the room were hung photographs of varying stages of the project. Mrs. Murphy showed a 10-minute archival film produced by well-known visual artist Don Wright in the 70s profiling “A Wrigglin’ Fence in Port Kirwan, Newfoundland.”

“Without the good judgment of Don Wright and his colleagues at the MUN film unit in the 70s, we would not have access to this little piece of community culture,” commented Mrs.

Murphy in her opening remarks. She also gave credit to Bert Riggs at the Centre for Newfoundland Studies and Don Walsh at MUN for digitizing and making the film available to her and her class.

The word “wrigglin” was adopted, according to Mrs. Murphy, to conform to the vernacular speech found in the film.



Having acquired a template of a traditional wriggling fence, Mrs. Murphy distributed the following outline and instructions to her students:

We will be investigating some of the traditional crafts and tools which were part of everyday life in our province.

Individual Fence: Woven fencing is familiar to most people from Newfoundland and Labrador. The techniques used to make these fences have been used for centuries. Our ancestors depended on these barriers to protect their crops and property. Hopefully you will enjoy creating your own Wriggling Fence Model.

Personal Business Card: Design a card to represent your craft and your expertise.

Designing the Package: Now it’s time to design a container to hold your crafted model. What will you make it look like? Let’s look at how designers work.

Scouting the parameters of the school for twigs and branches necessary to produce the woven fences, these young craftspeople were “real troopers,” according to

Mrs. Murphy, as they diligently encountered all kinds of weather conditions to gather the materials to build their version of a wriggling fence.

Students were encouraged to exercise patience, as they often had to start from the beginning in a third or fourth attempt to reconfigure one of their models.

Individuality was quite evident in their creative and unique designs, and no two packaging containers or

business cards were alike.

Because of the success of their exhibition, Mrs. Murphy and eight of her students were invited to participate in a folklore workshop on Thursday afternoon, February 26, at First United Church Annex as one of the East Coast Music Awards (ECMA) spousal cultural activities.

Their presentation of Traditional Wriggling Fences was a real celebration of ICH in this province.

Mrs. Murphy expressed her satisfaction: "These replicas brought to mind the fences which surrounded the grandparent's environments growing up in rural Newfoundland and Labrador."

"Reminiscing and sharing memories became a special part of the exhibit. Seeing the proud expressions on the faces of these young artisans was a fantastic conclusion for this course."

Fergus O'Byrne and Jim Payne To Celebrate Bartlett

Captain Bob Bartlett was the greatest ice captain of the 20th century and one of the world's most renowned mariners. In 2009, Newfoundland and Labrador will celebrate this true hero of the North.

With a year full of activities, people will have the opportunity to step onto the schooner Bowdoin. This historic vessel is one of the last Arctic schooners from that great era of exploration and is the Official Vessel of the State of Maine.

The Bowdoin has the distinction of being the only schooner built for the purposes of Arctic exploration. The Bowdoin will tour Newfoundland and Labrador, bringing the Bartlett story of exploration to ports around the province. This Ports Program will include opportunities to board, harbour sails, entertainment, drama, exhibitions and arrival ceremonies.

The Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is pleased to announce that the musical entertainment for the 2009 Ports Program will be Jim Payne and Fergus O'Byrne, who will perform a concert at all 12 ports of call.

Together these two performers combine instrumental prowess and humorous repartee to cover a broad spectrum of Newfoundland and Labrador folk culture, including songs, stories and dance tunes. Their repertoire includes rousing sea shanties and work songs, poignant ballads, comic ditties, folk tales and recitations, and toe-tapping jigs, reels and polkas on a variety of instruments.

The duo of Jim Payne and Fergus O'Byrne is an excellent choice for the Ports Program and the Tour of the Bowdoin. Their repertoire of maritime music and their appreciation of the marine heritage of this province will complement the various program components of the Bartlett celebrations.



For more information on the 2009 Bartlett celebrations, visit online at

www.bartlett2009.com

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